

# The Punta Gorda Herald

PUNTA GORDA — In Tropical Southwest Florida, a Seaport on the Famous Charlotte Harbor — a Town that is Known for its Natural Attractions and the Hospitality of a Cosmopolitan Citizenship

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## FLORIDA WAS THE HOME OF MAN IN THE EARLY AGES

As Shown by Recently Unearthed Prehistoric Remains

## HUMAN BONES WERE FOUND

Deposits Contain Also Fossils of Animals Different From Those Living Now in this Country—Pleistocene Geologic Period

By some very important discoveries made during the past year, an announcement of which is made by Dr. E. H. Sellards, state geologist, in the July issue of the American Journal of Science, it is shown that Florida has been the home of man for a much longer geologic period than has heretofore been suspected.

These discoveries include the finds of human bones and implements which are much older than any such relics found in America.

The human relics were found at Vero in St. Lucie county and came to light as the result of the construction of a drainage canal made by the Indian River Farms Company. The fossils are found in the banks of the canal and belong, according to the state geologist, to the geologic period known as the Pleistocene.

The first human bones at Vero were found by Frank Ayers in October 1915, and subsequent discoveries were made by Mr. Ayers, Ossac M. Weills and Dr. E. H. Sellards in April, 1916.

Not only are human bones found at this place, but in addition the deposits contain also the remains of many of the animals living at that time, which were very different from those living now in the United States. Among the strange animals then living in Florida, as shown by their fossil remains imbedded in this formation, were elephants, mastodons, three different kinds of horses, extinct bison, camels, pecaries, tapirs, very large sloths, wolves, and saber-tooth tigers. With the exception of the horses which have been reintroduced into America from Europe and bison which are native to North America, the nearest relatives of these species are now found in Central or South America, in Asia or in Africa.

It is the fortunate preservation of the fossilized bones of these animals that enables the state geologist to determine the age of the formation which contains the human relics. The time interval since these animals were living in America is believed by geologists to be not less than from 10,000 to 25,000 years. All the important material that is necessary to prove this discovery is in the state collection at Tallahassee.

The importance that is attached to this discovery by scientists is indicated by the fact that the American Journal of Science, the oldest and one of the best established scientific magazines in America, uses Dr. Sellard's announcement as the leading article for the July issue. These discoveries in fact include the most valuable addition to the history of the human race that has been made in the Western Hemisphere.—Several Exchanges.

## Cleanliness And Disease

Be clean if you would be healthy!

This is one of the commandments of the Gospel of the modern sanitarian. It is the basic foundation on which rests all the laws and rules under which the up-to-date physician makes his fight for the physical welfare of his patients. It is the most often repeated and the most emphasized of the orders that he issues to his clients, for he knows that recovery from disease and from wounds and the preservation of normal health conditions are next to impossible in the presence of uncleanness.

In the fight against infantile paralysis, which is occupying the most strenuous attention of the medical profession in the United States, this law has assumed a new and added significance. Admittedly, the disease is still very much of a mystery in its origin,

its progress and methods of development and as to the most effective treatment, but from their observation, the medical men of the country agree that its virulence is greater in the midst of unhygienic surroundings than under those where care is taken to create and preserve the proper conditions of clean living.

In this respect the disease follows exactly in line of all afflictions that are known to be of germ origin, indeed, of all physical derangements to which humans are the legitimate heirs.

There is no better preventative against disease than proper hygiene, none more essential, and the temperature of summer, whether in the North or the South, calls for extraordinary precautions in this direction. The reason is that putrefaction and decay are more rapid, as is all chemical reaction, under heat than under the lower temperatures of the cooler season. The breeding of flies and mosquitoes, the carriers of disease-producing germs, is favored by summer heat, whether it be in Florida or in Maine.

It is only natural that under the stress of emergency particular attention should be given to cleaning up the premises, to the prompt and regular removal of refuse, but here's something to remember—The influence of unclean physical surroundings, like that of moral uncleanness, is not immediately cut off by sudden reformation. It remains for a time to produce evil results in spite of improved surroundings. Our bodies, like our souls, must be rid of the poison of evil before they can absorb the full value of healthful surroundings.

It follows that we should always be in a state of preparedness against disease of every nature, mainly by the preservation of normal hygienic conditions, by habits of regular eating, bathing and clothing adapted to the personal occupation, by plenty of sleep and by indulgence in no form of excess. Persons who acquire and follow habits of regular normal living, unpunctuated by even occasional riots of excess, are best armed against disease, even though they may be surrounded by unhygienic conditions, but even such are subject to the poison of dirt, and no one is reasonably safe unless he is armed by personal cleanliness and by uncontaminated surroundings.

In the conditions that have a possible menace for Florida during the present summer, the matter of proper personal hygiene and circumstances is of the utmost importance, and by preserving such conditions the people of Florida can most effectively aid the health authorities in their fight against invasion by infantile paralysis.—State Board of Health.

## No Market For Them

The News receives nearly every week, letters and phone messages asking about the sale of rags, newspapers, brass, etc. At the present time, we know of no market where such waste products can be sold at a profit. The price offered for them is so little that it does not pay to gather and ship them. The freight rates eat up the entire returns.

If the people of Jacksonville or some other central point would get together and establish a paper mill, there might be a market for the thousands of tons of old newspapers, magazines, rags, etc., now going to waste in Florida. But in Florida we are all so intent on securing tourists and arranging for their pleasure, that we have little or no time to arrange for and encourage factories and farmers.—DeLand News.

Deserved sarcasm from Times-Union.—Reading about the millions that at this time are rolling into the big colleges and universities makes some people wonder if ever the educational institutions will become wealthy enough to have a department to teach reading, writing and arithmetic, being three accomplishments practically unknown to the average college graduate.

Zolfo was favored Saturday with a visit from one W. L. Koon.

## Pleasant Summer Climate of Florida

While the people of other states, and particularly those of the large cities are sweltering and suffering and many are dying as a result of the excessive heat wave that is sweeping over the country, we of South Florida are enjoying a period of unusually delightful weather, with moderate temperatures during the day time and fall like breezes in the night. The best of it all is that in this region we are not affected by the humidity that is prevalent elsewhere during the summer season, the reason we are not affected being because we do not have the humidity. We can not help regretting to learn of the deaths that follow those terrific heat waves, but we can do no more than point the havens of safety from such conditions and invite the people to come here where such things do not occur.—Fort Myers Press.

May, June and July—Three months of summer in Florida, have been delightfully pleasant, especially on the coast, and no suffering from heat has been heard from any part of the state. Residents are congratulating themselves upon their escape from the torrid wave that has taken such a heavy toll of life in the northern and middle western states. Florida knows no extremes of temperature. The summer migration from here is simply a fad, and not influenced by the desire to find a more comfortable summer resort. Here the cooling breezes sweep in from the ocean and fan Florida throughout the summer season, permitting work of the heaviest character, but prostrations never result from exposure to the sun. Those who have no labor to perform can enjoy their leisure here by boating, bathing and motoring. They can enjoy life to the utmost and without being forced to obey the conventions which are demanded in the pleasure resorts where fashion dictates. The "can't-get-aways" have no occasion to envy their less fortunate neighbors who have the means and leisure to travel in summer.—St. Augustine Record.

While the people in the cities of the north swelter, blister and sizzle Floridians are comfortable.

## Meeting of the County Commissioners

The board reconvened on Friday, July 21st, with the following members present: L. W. Whitehurst, chairman; John Hagan, William Whitten and D. L. Skipper.

The tax assessor filed his tax assessment for the year 1915.

Commissioners Hagan and Skipper were appointed a committee to examine the books of the various county officers and reported same to be neatly and accurately kept.

The hour having arrived, bids were opened for grubbing and clearing in special road and bridge district No. 1.

The bid of W. A. McQuaig for sixty-four dollars (\$64) per mile on the piece of unfinished road that lies in Fort Green Springs was accepted.

The bid of Gettis C. Albritton to open road (1 mi. south of Ona) lying between Jack Parabee and Joe Durran and fronting Richard Keen's place on the east side of Keen's was accepted with the proviso that the said Gettis C. Albritton enter into contract secured by bond, to finish said work within twenty-five days.

Authority for the construction of the bridge across Peace river at Punta Gorda was received from the war department and placed on file.

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, Chapter 6932, general acts of the legislature of Florida, of 1915, provides that each bank in which county funds are deposited, give a surety bond or deposit state county or county commissioners as collateral for such deposits; therefore,

ven though their electric fans be out of commission. In the northern cities summer nights are nightmares. In Florida the weary workman lays him down to pleasant dreams and awakens refreshed.

The native Floridian knows nothing of the horror of northern people who are tortured out of their rest by sweltering heat as the weary hours of the night drag on.

The cool inshore breezes from the gulf not only make the climate of Florida one of its greatest drawing cards in the winter but prevents extremes of heat in the summer. Simply to read the reports of the suffering of northern people from cold in the winter and heat in the summer should forcibly remind all Floridians of the blessing they enjoy in climate.

In Chicago Friday twenty-three people were killed by the heat and more than fifty were prostrated. In Florida such a thing as heat prostration is unknown.

It is strange but true that most northern people entertain the opinion that it is extremely hot in Florida during the summer months. Without consulting temperature records of the weather bureau they simply jump at the conclusion that it must be hot as blazes in Florida because Florida is nearer the equator than their home states.

Florida boosters in the north can always put in to good advantage any time they have to spare in talking by correcting the false impression of high temperatures in this state in the summer.—Pensacola News.

Hurrah for Florida for a summer resort! The dispatches are stating that the whole of the United States, excepting the Pacific coast, is in the grip of a torrid wave almost unprecedented. Floridians who are in New York have been hastening home the past week because of the extreme heat of the city. In Chicago deaths by the half hundred have occurred in one day. From other sections of the great Mississippi and Ohio valleys come similar reports. But here in Florida the temperature is as comfortable as it could be wished to be at this season of the year.—Gainesville Sun.

Resolved, That this board, in considering such state, county or municipal bonds as collateral, give preference to DeSoto county road and bridge district, school and drainage bonds or warrants.

The clerk filed the following estimate with the board:

I beg to submit the following estimate of revenue received other than by the general levy in and for DeSoto county, Florida:

Auto license, \$2,000.

Occupation license, \$2,800.

Polls, \$3,500.

Fines, \$3,000.

Hire state convicts, \$1,300.

A. L. DURRANCE, County Auditor.

The board of public instructions filed an itemized statement of the requirements for school purposes and a request that a levy of seven mills be made for general school purposes, and an additional five mills in the following special tax school districts, for the purpose of paying interest and to create a sinking fund for the retirement of bonds:

Aradia No. 1, Avon Park No. 3, Popash No. 4, Wauchula No. 5, Nocatee No. 6, Owens No. 7, Oak Hill No. 8, Bowling Green No. 10, Charlotte Harbor No. 34, Sebring Special No. 37.

By motion the clerk was instructed to insert the following advertisement:

Notice of bids for clearing road.

Notice is hereby given that the County Commissioners of DeSoto County, Florida, will receive sealed bids until 12 o'clock m. the 8th day of August, 1916, for clearing a road thirty feet in width, located as follows:

Begin 227 feet 4 1-2 inches

west of center of Charlotte Harbor and Northern Railway's crossing near the depot at McCall, in DeSoto county run north 40 degrees, west, 17,270 feet, then north 68 degrees, west 532 feet, to southeast corner of section 24, township 40, range 20, on Manatee county line. Being road No. 1 of the Charlotte Harbor special road and bridge district.

Said road to be cleared of pines, stumps, and palmettos to a depth of one foot, for a distance of seven feet on each side of the center, and to a depth of two feet for the remaining eight feet on each side, so that work by grading machine shall not be interfered with.

The successful bidder will be required to enter into contract with good and sufficient bond of \$1,000 for the completion of said work.

The County Commissioners reserving the right to reject any and all bids.

A. L. Durranee, Clerk. Moved and carried, that the contract and bond of Edwards Construction Company for road work in Special Road and Bridge District No. 5 be accepted and approved, with the proviso that the bond be so amended as to read Special Road and Bridge District No. 5, as obligee.

There being no further business, the board adjourned to meet in regular session on August 7th.

The clerk was instructed to publish the following:

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners will receive proposals up to 2 p. m. of August 7, 1916, for furnishing approximately 3,300 cubic yards of hard surfacing material to be delivered on road No. 2 of The Charlotte Harbor Special Road and Bridge District, DeSoto County, Florida, as per specifications on file in the clerk's office in said county.

A check for \$50.00 will be required with each bid as evidence of good faith. Reserving the right to reject any and all bids.

Moved and carried, the budget was adopted for the year 1916-1917.

The hour having arrived, bids as advertised for were opened.

The bid of the Mine and Mill Supply Company, of Mulberry, Fla., for 3,000 pounds of dynamite 64 per cent straight nitroglycerine, at \$21.75 per hundred pounds, for Special Road and Bridge District No. 5, was by motion adopted.

By motion a bid of Russell Grader Mfg. Co., to furnish one Russell Mfg. Grader at \$675.00 and one Russell Mogul Grader at \$750.00 for Special Road and Bridge District No. 5, was accepted.

By motion, the bid of W. B. West and J. N. Butler for clearing and grubbing in Special Road and Bridge District No. 5, were laid over for consideration at the regular meeting of the Board in August.

## Does An Orange Grove Pay?

Does an orange grove pay? This is a question that is frequently asked, and many of our own people are unable to give a thoroughly satisfactory answer. In a general way, they will either attempt to answer in the affirmative or negative (as it may appear to them), but without anything practical, concrete or specific in the way of arguments.

The following is an answer both practical and concrete, as well as specific:

C. W. Stansberry, living south of Lake Hollingsworth, from 3.14 acres of bearing grove has net returns this year of \$2,027.00, or a clear profit after paying every expense connected with fertilizing, cultivating, picking, packing and marketing the fruit of \$625.00 per acre.

Mr. Stansberry says that his success is due simply to good land, good stock, proper care and satisfactory marketing through the Florida Citrus Growers Exchange.—Lakeland Telegram.

It is a felicitous rhyme, but it appears to some of us that "Order" as a mate for "Border" has been overlooked.

## LATEST ZEPPELIN RAID ON LONDON NOT A SUCCESS

English Report That No One Was Killed by the Raiders

## GERMANS ATTACK FRENCH

But Regain No Lost Ground—In Galicia Said to Have Count von Bothmer's Army Almost Enveloped — Have Occupied Brody

a London, England:—There were no casualties whatever as the result of projectiles dropped by the Zeppelin airships Monday night.

The raid on the eastern and southeastern counties of England was carried out by seven or more Zeppelins accompanied by aeroplanes, according to the reports of observers. Independent accounts say one Zeppelin, caught by searchlights, was heavily fired upon. It was believed the airship was hit as she appeared to stop, tremble and then dive.

The Germans, reacting with more than usual vigor north of the Somme, have made counter attack after counter attack during the last twenty-four hours without changing the positions of the French. According to official reports all attempts of the Germans to regain lost ground have been beaten off by the French rifle, machine gun and artillery fire while the work of strengthening and adapting the newly won trenches is being carried on by the engineer corps.

The French commanders regard the situation as excellent and say the arrangements in the rear of the attacking forces have reached a pitch of perfection never before seen. Materials of all kinds is in abundance far exceeding the actual requirements and everything is ready for an attempt to push the advance further.

The fury of the German assaults and the strength of the effective engaged shows the determination of the emperor's generals to spare no effort to prevent the French from working their way along the north bank of the river from Clerly to attack Peronne from two sides. Aviators report that the Germans are making feverish efforts to reinforce the already strongly fortified positions about Clerly and are gathering reserves from several directions.

General Count Von Bothmer's army is reported to be almost enveloped by the Russians in Galicia, says a dispatch from Rome to the Wireless Press. Cossack divisions after the occupation of Brody are said to have destroyed the railways behind the Austrian army.

The Germans are withdrawing from Kovel their heavy artillery, food and munition depots, says another dispatch to the Wireless Press. The city of Vladimir-Volynsky in Volhynia, is said to have been completely evacuated by the Germans.

The Arcadia News is very much interested in keeping Peace river from being polluted with the washings of the phosphate mines. It's something that is well worth working for, but we do not know what to do about it as long as we continue to send men to Tallahassee that think more of the corporations than they do of the people. Our wise legislators pass laws that make it a criminal offense for a poor man to make a few dollars by catching cat-fish, but the same law-makers will let a few corporations spoil one of the best game fishing streams in the United States. A dozen years ago, there was not a better fishing ground in the country for black bass than Peace river. Today there is scarcely a game fish in it, owing to the pollution by the phosphate companies.—Wauchula Advocate.

Arcadia News, Saturday:—A. B. Tucker, the good roads booster from Punta Gorda, accompanied by Mrs. Tucker and children, paid us a pleasant call yesterday afternoon. He is enthusiastic over the possibilities of the eastern end of district 3, where, in the neighborhood of Okeechobee, are located some of the most fertile lands in the world.